IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method for manufacturing a straight strip lamination with a press, comprising the steps of:

providing in the press a die comprising a main slot punch, a separator punch, and a part feature punch;

activating the main slot ~~punch~~ and separator punches and deactivating the part feature punch;

with each ~~strike~~ stroke of the press, feeding a strip into the die a first same step distance and repeatedly stamping with the main slot punch and the separator punch to create a plurality of slots with punched-out separations therebetween having a desired constant slot distance progression;

deactivating the main slot punch and the separator punch and activating the part feature punch, and for the next stroke of the press feeding the strip into the die ~~with~~ a second step distance different than said first step distance and stamping with the part feature punch so as to create at least one part feature in said strip; and

deactivating the part feature punch and reactivating the slot punch and the separator punch and for the next stroke of the press feeding the strip into the die ~~with~~ a third step distance equal to a difference between said first and second step distances, and stamping with the slot and separator punches.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein following said third step distance, feeding the strip with said first same step distance and stamping with the slot and separator punches.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 including the step of providing a cut-off end contour punch in the die, deactivating the slot and separator punches and activating the cut-off end contour punch, and feeding the strip and stamping with the cut-off end contour punch.

4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 3 wherein the strip is fed prior to stamping with the cut-off end contour punch with a fourth step distance different than at least one of said first, second, and third step distances.

5. (original) The method according to claim 4 wherein the fourth step distance is different than the first, second, and third step distances.

6. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of providing said part feature as a T-slot.

7. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of feeding the strip with opposed pinch rollers driven by a servo motor controlled by a program control.

8. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of coiling a completed strip at an output of the die.

9. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of producing linear motor straight strip laminations.

10. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of providing the slot punch so that teeth are formed in two parallel strips.

11. (original) The method according to claim 1 including the step of providing the die beginning at strip entrance end with the slot punch, followed by the part feature punch, which is then followed by the separator punch.

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 11 including the step of following the separator punch by a cut-off end contour punch.

13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12 wherein the cut-off end contour punch has a separator punch portion.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12 wherein the cut-off end contour punch has a part feature portion.

15. (original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the die outputs a continuous strip of completed lamination which is coiled, and then later the coil is uncoiled and separate strip laminations are punched from the continuous coil lamination.

16-18. (cancelled)

19. (new) A method for manufacturing a straight strip lamination with a press, comprising the steps of:

providing in the press a die comprising a main slot punch and a part feature punch;

activating the main slot punch and deactivating the part feature punch;

with each stroke of the press, feeding a strip into the die a first same step distance and repeatedly stamping with the main slot punch to create a plurality of slots having a desired constant slot distance progression;

deactivating the main slot punch and activating the part feature punch, and for the next stroke of the press feeding the strip into the die a second step distance different than said first step distance and stamping with the part feature punch so as to create at least one part feature in said strip; and

deactivating the part feature punch and reactivating the slot punch and for the next stroke of the press feeding the strip into the die a third step distance equal to a difference between first and second step distances, and stamping with the slot punch.